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Letter dated 26 April 2002 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Cyprus to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government and further to my letter dated 21 January 2002 (A/56/785-S/2002/100), I have the honour to draw your attention to new massive violations of the flight information region (FIR) of Nicosia and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by military aircraft of the Turkish Air Force, recorded on 3, 9, 14, 15, 16, 21, 23, 24, 25, 28, 29, 30 and 31 January and on 6, 7, 12, 13, 14, 18, 20, 27 and 28 February 2002.

On 3 January, four F-16 Turkish military aircraft, coming from the FIR of Ankara and flying in two formations, entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations before exiting towards a western direction.

On 9 January, one C-160 Turkish military aircraft entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Karpasia (Cape of Apostolos Andreas) before exiting towards a south-eastern direction. The aircraft returned on the same day from the same direction.

On 14 January, one CN-235 Turkish military aircraft entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Mesaoria before landing at the illegal airport of Tymbou in the occupied area of the Republic. The aircraft returned on the next day to the FIR of Ankara.

On 15 January, two F-4 Turkish military aircraft, coming from the FIR of Ankara and flying in one formation, entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations before exiting towards a western direction.

On 16 January, one AB-205 Turkish military aircraft entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Mesaoria before landing first at the illegal airport of Tymbou and then at the illegal airport of Krini, both in the occupied area of the Republic.

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On 21 January, one C-650 Turkish military aircraft entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Mesaoria before landing at the illegal airport of Tymbou in the occupied area of the Republic. The aircraft returned on the same day to the FIR of Ankara.

On 23 January, one C-130 Turkish military aircraft entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Karpasia (Cape of Apostolos Andreas) before exiting towards a south-eastern direction. The aircraft returned on the same day from the same direction.

On 24 January, one Turkish military aircraft of unknown type, coming from the FIR of Ankara, entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Kyrenia before exiting towards the FIR of Ankara.

On 25 January, five F-4 Turkish military aircraft, flying in one formation, and one military aircraft of unknown type coming from the FIR of Ankara, entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations before exiting towards the FIR of Ankara.

On 28 January, two F-16 Turkish military aircraft, flying in one formation, and one C-650 entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, as follows:

(a) The C-650 military aircraft entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Mesaoria before landing at the illegal airport of Tymbou in the occupied area of the Republic. The aircraft returned on the same day to the FIR of Ankara;

(b) The two F-16 military aircraft, coming from the FIR of Ankara, entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations before exiting towards a western direction.

On 29 January, one CN-235 Turkish military aircraft entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Mesaoria before landing at the illegal airport of Tymbou in the occupied area of the Republic. The aircraft returned on the same day to the FIR of Ankara.

On 30 January, one CN-235 Turkish military aircraft entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Mesaoria before landing at the illegal airport of Tymbou in the occupied area of the Republic. The aircraft returned on the same day to the FIR of Ankara.

On 31 January, one C-160 and one C-130 Turkish military aircraft entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, as follows:

(a) The C-160 Turkish military aircraft entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Karpasia (Cape of Apostolos Andreas) before exiting

towards a south-eastern direction. The aircraft returned on the same day from the same direction;

(b) The C-130 Turkish military aircraft, coming from the FIR of Ankara, entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Mesaoria before landing at the illegal airport of Tymbou in the occupied area of the Republic. The aircraft returned on the same day to the FIR of Ankara.

On 6 February, one C-130 Turkish military aircraft entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Karpasia (Cape of Apostolos Andreas) before exiting towards a south-eastern direction. The aircraft returned on the same day from the same direction.

On 7 February, four F-16 Turkish military aircraft, coming from the FIR of Ankara and flying in two formations, entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations before exiting towards a western direction.

On 12 February, six F-16 Turkish military aircraft, coming from the FIR of Ankara and flying in two formations, entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations before exiting towards a western direction.

On 13 February, one C-160 Turkish military aircraft entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Karpasia (Cape of Apostolos Andreas) before exiting towards a south-eastern direction. The aircraft returned on the same day from the same direction.

On 14 February, four F-16 Turkish military aircraft, coming from the FIR of Ankara and flying in one formation, entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations before exiting towards a western direction. Two of them returned from the same direction.

On 18 February, one B-200 Turkish military aircraft entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Mesaoria before landing at the illegal airport of Tymbou in the occupied area of the Republic. The aircraft returned on the same day to the FIR of Ankara.

On 20 February, one C-130 and one CN-235 Turkish military aircraft entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, as follows:

(a) The C-130 Turkish military aircraft entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Karpasia (Cape of Apostolos Andreas) before exiting towards a south-eastern direction. The aircraft returned on the same day from the same direction;

(b) The CN-235 Turkish military aircraft, coming from the FIR of Ankara, entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Mesaoria before landing at the illegal airport of Tymbou in the occupied area of the Republic. The aircraft returned on the same day to the FIR of Ankara.

On 27 February, four Turkish military aircraft of unknown type, coming from the FIR of Ankara and flying in two formations, entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations before exiting towards a western direction.

On 28 February, 12 Turkish military aircraft of unknown type, coming from the FIR of Ankara and flying in six formations, entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations before exiting towards a western direction and the FIR of Ankara.

On behalf of the Government of the Republic of Cyprus, I strongly protest the above actions, which violate international law, as well as the Security Council resolutions on Cyprus, and call for their cessation. I would like to note that these daily violations are occurring in the middle of intense direct talks between the President of the Republic of Cyprus, Mr. Clerides, and the Turkish Cypriot leader, Mr. Denktash, and in the presence of the Secretary-General's special adviser on Cyprus, Mr. de Soto, in the exercise of the Secretary-General's mission of good offices. Let us not forget that the Security Council gave its full support to the Secretary-General's mission of good offices conducted pursuant to Council resolution 1250 (1999), that, in its most recent resolution on Cyprus 1384 (2001), it reaffirmed all its previous resolutions on Cyprus, and especially that, in paragraph 11 of its resolution 1251 (1999), it reaffirmed its position that:

> "a Cyprus settlement must be based on a State of Cyprus with a single sovereignty and international personality and a single citizenship, with its independence and territorial integrity safeguarded, and comprising two politically equal communities as described in the relevant Security Council resolutions, in a bi-communal and bi-zonal federation, and that such a settlement must exclude union in whole or in part with any other country or any form of partition or secession".

Let us hope that the Government of Turkey will show restraint and will cease the violation of the airspace of Cyprus and contribute to the efforts to find a just and viable solution to the Cyprus problem on the basis of United Nations resolutions.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 62, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) George **Kasoulides**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.